REMARKS

Claims 1-62 are currently pending, with claims 1, 12, 23, 36, 50, 54, 58 and 62 being independent. Claims 54-61 were previously withdrawn from consideration and claims 1, 12 and 62 have been amended to address the rejection under section 112, second paragraph, as discussed below. The amendments are not believed to raise new issues. Support for the amendments may be found in the application at, for example, Figs. 1, 4 and 6. No new matter has been introduced.

Applicant acknowledges with appreciation the Examiner's allowance of claims 50-53 and the Examiner's indication that claims 1-22 and 62 are directed to allowable subject matter.

Claims 23-35 and 36-49 have been provisionally rejected for obviousness-type double patenting over, respectively, claims 21-32 and 33-45 of copending Application No. 09/931,061. Applicant notes that the '061 application issued as U.S. Patent No. 6,987,496 on January 17, 2006, and requests withdrawal of the rejection in view of the terminal disclaimer that is being filed with this reply.

As noted above, claims 1, 12 and 62 have been amended in response to the rejection under section 112, second paragraph. These amendments are believed to address the Examiner's concerns and, accordingly, applicant requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-22 and 62 under section 112, second paragraph.

Applicant submits that all claims are in condition for allowance.

The fees in the amount of $250 for a one-month extension of time ($130) and submission of a terminal disclaimer ($130) are being paid concurrently herewith on the Electronic Filing System (EFS) by way of Deposit Account authorization. Please apply any other charges or credits to Deposit Account No. 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: March 15, 2006   Barbara A. Benoit for
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